



<http://www.santafeaudubon.org>

and



Santa Fe Audubon Society - Florida

Santa Fe Audubon Society

Melrose, FL

APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER

PROGRAM TUESDAY, APRIL 9 **THE GULF** THE MAKING OF AN AMERICAN SEA

Speaker:
Pulitzer Prize Winner
JACK E. DAVIS

<https://history.ufl.edu/directory/jack-e-davis/>

6:45 PM at Trinity Episcopal Parish Hall
204 SR 26 downtown Melrose

You do not need to be a Santa Fe Audubon Society chapter member to attend our Speaker Series Programs. All are welcome!



Join us for author Jack E. Davis' talk about his book *The Gulf - The Making of an American Sea* which won the 2018 Pulitzer Prize in history and the Kirkus Prize in nonfiction. The New York Times Book Review described *The Gulf* as a "beautiful homage to a neglected sea."

The Gulf is our April "Recommended Reading" on page 2.

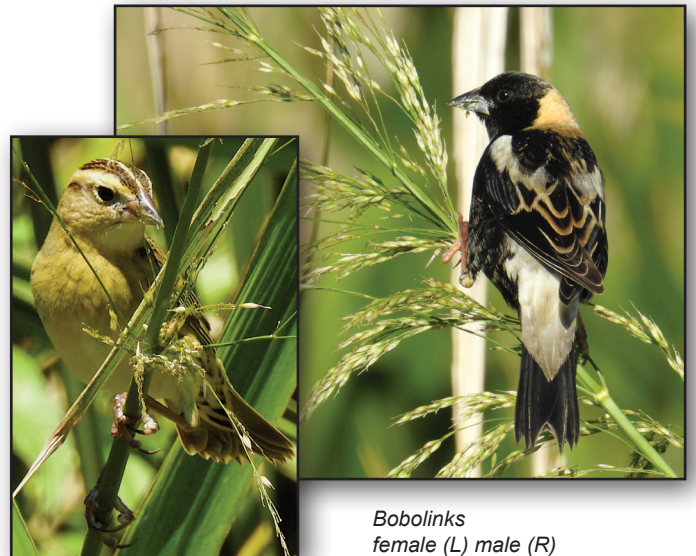
**This is our last program
until October 2024**

The safety of our membership is of upmost importance, We encourage everyone to, please, wear a mask.

Our in-person Speaker Series may be postponed or canceled on short notice due to health related concerns.

FIELD TRIP Saturday, May 4

SWEETWATER WETLANDS PARK
for Bobolinks & more



Bobolinks
female (L) male (R)

Join us for a walk at this man-made wetland where the birds are accustomed to humans. There are often opportunities for close-up looks and great photographs. This time of year, we may see migrating Bobolinks feasting on the Southern Rice Grass, along with local favorites. Approx. 2 - 3 hours

DIFFICULTY LEVEL 2 - May involve uneven terrain; 1-2 miles
PARKING FEE: \$5 PER VEHICLE

TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT

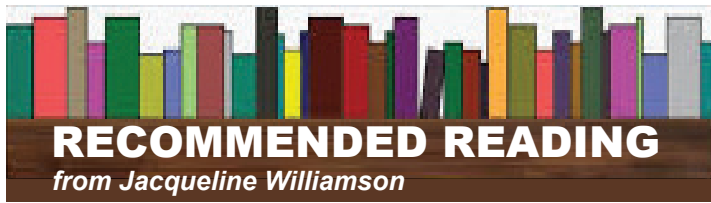
CONTACT: Celina Rohman virgil1946@att.net
and Nancy Staples nlshootie@gmail.com

To caravan from Melrose meet on the west side of Heritage Park at **7:50 AM OR**
Sweetwater Wetlands Park at **8:30 AM**

325 SW Williston Road, Gainesville

THERE ARE RESTROOMS AT THIS LOCATION

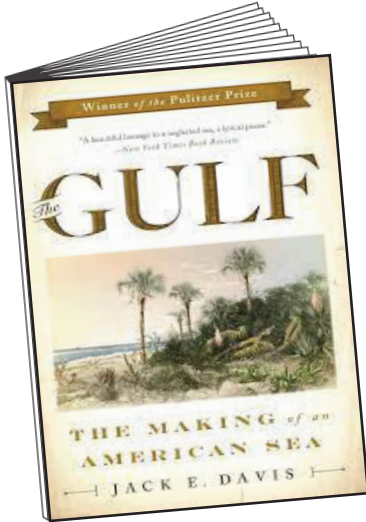
Reservations for each trip will be filled on a first-come first-served basis with waiting lists in case of participant cancellation. Please be sure to include the field trip name and date along with your name, phone number(s) and e-mail address, in case we need to notify you of any changes.



THE GULF

The Making of an American Sea

by Jack E. Davis



From Pulitzer Prize winning author, Jack E. Davis, comes *The Gulf*, an immersive read on our unique "American Sea." It offers both an excellent overview of its history and the pressing environmental issues facing the Gulf today.

GOOD NEWS

from Jacqueline Williamson

\$1.4 MILLION AWARDED IN AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL CHALLENGE GRANT

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation awarded the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/FAS), Archbold Biological Station and Conservation Florida, roughly \$1.4 million in grant funding for a groundbreaking collaborative project to enhance wildlife habitat in the Northern Everglades as part of the America the Beautiful Challenge.

SPEAKER SERIES PROGRAM MAY 14 Bees has been CANCELLED



March 31, 2024

Five boxes had kestrels/eggs, one box had no discernable disturbance but did have an adult Kestrel flush from a tree 50 feet away. No flying squirrels and a number of screech owls.

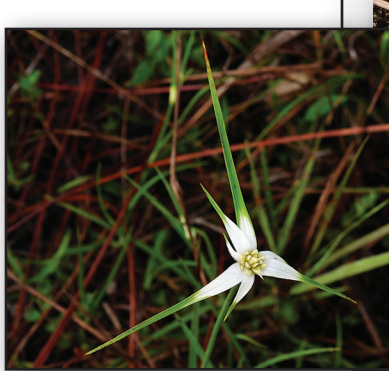


FLORIDA WILDLIFE EXTENSION Wildlife Happenings

Click on the link below to check out the "Wildlife Happenings" in our area.

https://wec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/wildlife_info/happenings/

Field Trip Santa Fe Swamp March 23, 2024



Whitetop Sedge



Common Buckeye



Fetterbush



Damselfly species



Long-headed Toothpick Grasshopper



Blue Dasher



Fourpetal
St Johnswart



BIRDS OF THE MONTH

WELCOME BACK

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD

(*Archilochus colubris*)

band code "RTHU"



SWALLOW-TAILED KITE

(*Elanoides forficatus*)

band code "STKI"



To learn more about these two magnificent species go to:

[https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Ruby-throated Hummingbird/](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Ruby-throated_Hummingbird/)

[https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Swallow-tailed Kite/](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Swallow-tailed_Kite/)

Fun Facts: A group of Hummingbirds are collectively known as a "bouquet", "glittering", "hover", "shimmer" or a "tune".

A group of Kites are collectively known as a "brood", "kettle", "roost", "stooping" and a "string" of kites.



Tree Fest 2024

April 27, 2024 | 12pm - 11pm

@ Swamp Head Brewery
3650 SW 42nd Ave, Gainesville



What is Tree Fest?

Tree Fest is an annual event presented by **Solar Impact** and hosted at **Swamp Head** around Earth Day and Arbor Day to support the **Alachua Conservation Trust** by raising money to plant a lot of trees.

RSVP ON FACEBOOK

12 - 5 pm | Family friendly activities, tabling, and bands!

5 - 11 pm | Drink beer and help plant trees!



How does it work?

Tree Fest plants four trees for every beer purchased during the day. Trees will also be planted for merchandise purchases. All donations from Tree Fest sponsors go directly to tree plantings.

Trees are one-year-old longleaf pines. They are planted by the Alachua Conservation Trust at the Little Orange Creek Preserve in Hawthorne, FL.



1 BEER
4 TREES



1 BITE
1 TREE



1 BUCK
4 TREES

Four trees planted for every beer purchased during Tree Fest

Some of our food vendors also donate to tree plantings

Businesses and individuals add their donations for more trees



Food Trucks • Live Music Participating Non-Profits

Alachua County Recycles

Florida Conservation Corps

SFC Teaching Zoo

Keep Alachua County Beautiful

Community Weatherization Coalition

Climate Reality Project Gainesville

FL Native Plant Society

Sierra Club, Suwannee-St Johns Group

Santa Fe Audubon Society

Participating Vendors

Stinky Lewis Soap

Jennifer Hartz, Pottery

Jenny Alpaugh, Crochet Art

If you are interested in sponsoring Tree Fest 2024, please email info@treefestfl.com.

GO ON A SCAVENGER HUNT



2024 Florida WildQuest

APRIL 27 - MAY 5

A unique experience on Florida's Wildlife Management Areas!

**EASY
&
FUN**

Scan and
Get the
goosechase
App



Enter
Game Code:
DE6E39

**WIN
PRIZES!**



Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

[FloridaWildQuest.com](https://floridawildquest.com)

Any person who requires special accommodation to participate should notify the agency at least 7 calendar days before the event by calling 850-488-9453. Those with hearing or speech impairments may contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service at 800-955-8771 (TDD) or 800-955-8770 (voice). If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or use of a facility, write to: FWC, Office of Human Resources 620 South Meridian St. Tallahassee FL 32399-1600 850-488-6411 OR Civil Rights Accessibility Coordinator for Public Access U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service 5275 Leesburg Pike Falls Church, VA 22041 703-358-2349 or 703-358-2121

<https://floridanaturetrackers.com/wildquest/>